

Carla's Coaching Connections

October 2010



What's Happening in Classrooms?

- Students are engaged through the implementation of "TTL – Turn, Talk, Listen".
- The voice level system is keeping classroom communications respectful and productive.
- Prompt cards are helping students have extended conversations about texts.
- Anchor charts are identifying specific reading procedures and strategies.
- Students are using "I PICK" good fit books to find books that are just right.

Use The Ghost-Eye Tree

by Jane Yolen

- ❖ Focus on the ellipse (...) as a useful punctuation tool.
- ❖ Study the power of Ted Rand's illustrations, especially the facial expressions.
- ❖ Label the circular text. Story begins and ends at the same spot. With the help of the students name other books with a circular text and post it on a chart.

Use The Ghost-Eye Tree as a writing mentor text.

Teaching Tools

How can you REALLY know your students as readers?

- ✓ Interview them at your first reading conference.
- ✓ Create a class list of favorite books read aloud to them last year.
- ✓ Discuss their reading logs with them on a regular basis.
- ✓ Interact with students as they select library books.
- ✓ Listen in on partnership discussions about book selections.

A

Stone Wall by James Stevenson

P

A strong stone wall
Is good to see:

I

E

All those different rocks
Working together,
Getting along fine.

C

O

F

P

O

E

T

R

Y

- ✗ Read it repeatedly with different voices.
- ✗ Memorize it before teaching it to your students, allowing you to make eye contact with students as they learn it.
- ✗ Read it line by line, alternating boys and girls.
- ✗ Challenge students to memorize it and share it with other audiences. (family members, friends, teachers)

Check out this Reading/Writing blog

<http://literacybytes.com/>